

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, FLORIDA
CHAIRMAN

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, NEW JERSEY
DAN BURTON, INDIANA
ELTON GALLEGLY, CALIFORNIA
DANA ROHRBACHER, CALIFORNIA
DONALD A. MANZULLO, ILLINOIS
EDWARD R. ROYCE, CALIFORNIA
STEVE CHABOT, OHIO
RON PAUL, TEXAS
MIKE PENCE, INDIANA
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
CONNIE MACK, FLORIDA
JEFF FORTENBERRY, NEBRASKA
MICHAEL T. McCaul, TEXAS
TED POE, TEXAS
GUS M. BILIRAKIS, FLORIDA
JEAN SCHMIDT, OHIO
BILL JOHNSON, OHIO
DAVID RIVERA, FLORIDA
MIKE KELLY, PENNSYLVANIA
TIM GRIFFIN, ARKANSAS
TOM MARINO, PENNSYLVANIA
JEFF DUNCAN, SOUTH CAROLINA
ANN MARIE BUERKLE, NEW YORK
RENEE ELLMERS, NORTH CAROLINA

YLEEM D.S. POBLETE
STAFF DIRECTOR



One Hundred Twelfth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.hcfa.house.gov

HOWARD L. BERMAN, CALIFORNIA
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER
GARY L. ACKERMAN, NEW YORK
ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA, AMERICAN SAMOA
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
BRAD SHERMAN, CALIFORNIA
ELIOT L. ENGEL, NEW YORK
GREGORY W. MEEKS, NEW YORK
RUSS CARNAHAN, MISSOURI
ALBIO SIRE, NEW JERSEY
GERALD E. CONNOLLY, VIRGINIA
THEODORE E. DEUTCH, FLORIDA
DENNIS CARDOZA, CALIFORNIA
BEN CHANDLER, KENTUCKY
BRIAN HIGGINS, NEW YORK
ALLYSON SCHWARTZ, PENNSYLVANIA
CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY, CONNECTICUT
FREDERICA WILSON, FLORIDA
KAREN BASS, CALIFORNIA
WILLIAM KEATING, MASSACHUSETTS
DAVID CICILLINE, RHODE ISLAND

RICHARD J. KESSLER
DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

June 29, 2012

His Excellency Jakaya Kikwete
President of Tanzania
c/o Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania
1232 22nd Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear President Kikwete :

I am writing to express my deep dismay that Tanzania has permitted the National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC), to reflag at least 6 and as many as 10 of its vessels under the Tanzanian ship registry, allowing them to remain under NITC ownership and continuing to transport Iran's crude oil exports. This action by your government has the effect of assisting the Iranian regime in evading U.S. and EU sanctions and generating additional revenues for its nuclear enrichment and weapons research programs and its support for international terrorism.

It is profoundly disappointing to me to learn that your government has acted in contravention of the broad international coalition that is working together to use peaceful means, including economic sanctions, to change the threatening behavior of the Iranian regime. The decision to accept the re-flagging of NITC vessels casts a shadow over Tanzania's international reputation.

I respectfully request that Tanzania cancel the re-flagging of the NITC vessels. Given the close and cooperative relationship that our two governments now enjoy, it would be unfortunate if this action were permitted to stand.

It would be preferable that Tanzania take this action of its own accord. However, your government should take note of President Obama's Executive Order 13608, signed May 1, 2012, which provides for the imposition of sanctions on any entity worldwide, including foreign governments, that assists Iran in evading U.S. sanctions. In my view, reflagging Iranian oil

His Excellency Jakaya Kikwete

June 29, 2012

Page Two

tankers falls within the scope of sanctionable activity under that Executive Order. In addition, if Tanzania were to allow Iranian vessels to remain under Tanzanian registry, we in the Congress would have no choice but to consider whether to continue the range of bi-lateral U.S. programs with Tanzania.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Howard L. Berman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Howard" and last name "Berman" clearly distinguishable.

HOWARD L. BERMAN
Ranking Member